

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

If there is a flag they would have FULL control over copying. At first glance this appears to be a good thing. But what about fair use to make a backup copy for personal use? This is something that I find intolerable as an American....

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices?

Well, of course it would interfere with this! This is exactly what they want to do! Hey, if they broadcast it, I receive it. As long as I don not re-broadcast it, sell it, or publicly show it...what am I harming?

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard?

I see them attempting to make older equipment non-functional. This would force an unfair burden onto the American consumer. Why should WE have to spend money to upgrade our equipment that THEY have made obsolete for no good reason?

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options?

It doesn't matter what their intent is...look at the reality of it. Unless you are a "Professional" as defined by them you will not be able to tinker, or design your own equipment, as this would be considered "reverse-engineering" an defiend by the DMCA. Want to bet whether that gets used? All it will do is limit and punish the people who like to tinker, and force them to by equipment that they don't need, or want.

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment?

Do you really think that the manufacturers of this new equipment will not put a premium price tag on it? If the consumer is stuck in a position where they ahve to buy it, or do without then the manufacturers will stick it to them....Why should we pay for the privledge of watching/listening to their broadcasts? I enjoy plain old fashioned cable and broadcast TV. Currently in my are Digital TV is available. I refuse to use it because of the cost. If the FCC allows this to happen then not only would I be forced to subscribe to digital cable, I would also be forced to replace my whole home entertainment system. I do not have several thousand dollars lying around to do this.

Other Comments:

Look at the history of technologocal inovation. It is driven by the needs of the many, not the needs of the few. The broadcast industries are trying to get a stranglehold on the information available today. All they are doing is forcing the government to stagnate the creative process in this country that drives our technological advances. Do the research...There are many advances that were done by the "little guy" on his own....This ruling would be another step towards eliminating this. It was INDIVIDUALS, not corporations who discovered radio to begin with! Think about what would have happened if legislation of this nature was in place 30 years ago.....

You would not have companies like Apple computers, Microsoft, etc. (They all work with a digital technology - computers). And they were done by small, individuals....NOT corporations!